

King Hussein gets enthusiastic welcome at Baq'a refugee camp

AMMAN, Jan. 30 (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein yesterday visited Al-Baq'a refugee camp north of Amman. Upon arrival, His Majesty was warmly welcomed by hundreds of people. The King then inspected various units of the camp, including the Young Welfare centre, where he was briefed on the activities of the centre; and the needs of the people. King Hussein was accompanied by Chief of the Royal Court, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker.

Volume 3, Number 565



Majesty King Hussein hands a graduation certificate to a member of the second batch of the course of conscripts who volunteered to serve in the Special Forces at a ceremony on Monday. Recruits gave a demonstration of free jumping and parachuting before the King and senior officers including the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force. (JNA photo)

Ethiopia claims President Carter is masterminding plot against it

DON, Jan. 30 (R). — Ethiopia's Marxist leader, Lt.-Col. Haile Mariam, today accused President Carter of masterminding an international

plot to build up Somalia's arms and put the Horn of Africa "under anti-Ethiopian forces."

In a nationwide broadcast

Somalia appeals for western action in Horn

ROBI, Jan. 30 (R). — Somalia's Marxist leader, who has urged Western powers to take action in the Horn of Africa because their oil route through the Red Sea at stake, Somalia has reported today.

Informed sources in the Ethiopian capital said last weekend there were now 3,000 Cubans and 1,500 Russians fighting alongside the fledgling Ethiopian Marxist government.

The sources in Addis Ababa said a massive Ethiopian army of 120,000 men, backed by Cubans and Russians, was expected to launch an offensive against the Somalis within two weeks.

Hawks in the Ethiopian military command were urging that the offensive push into Somalia and take the second city of Hargeisa, which could then be used in negotiations for withdrawal of Somali forces from the Ogaden region, the sources added.

The sources said the Cubans appeared to be playing a more direct role in the fighting while the Russians remain in the background. Col. Mengistu claimed.

Piece of Soviet satellite found; No danger from radiation as yet

ONTARIO, Alberta, Jan. 30 — A Canadian defence spokesman said early today that a piece of the Soviet satellite that fell to earth last Tuesday had found in northern Canada.

The spokesman said the object had formed a blackened hole two to three metres wide in the tundra.

He was found by a group of American and Canadian naturalists studying wildlife at a research outpost called Warden's

station. No health hazard was detected but it was no health hazard at distance beyond about 30 metres from the crater, the spokesman added.

Four paratroopers from the Canadian armed forces will be dropped shortly to conduct off the site. Now that the impact area has been identified, all persons are being urged not to approach," the spokesman said.

The announcement followed days of conflicting reports on whether any of the satellite survived the extreme heat of re-entry into the earth's atmosphere when it fell out of orbit.

The crater was found 12 km northeast of the landing strip at Warden's Grove, which is

1,500 kms. northeast of Edmonton.

Canadian and U.S. officials had earlier expressed confidence that the satellite had burned out because of atmospheric friction.

President Carter said today the United States would willingly forgo deployment of nuclear-powered space satellites such as the Soviet one that came down over northern Canada last week.

In a statement at a televised press conference, Mr. Carter said he would pursue this proposal with the Soviet Union as part of his effort to obtain more rigid safety precautions for space satellites.

Eskimos living in the area have been reassured that their caribou is still safe to eat.

The hunters and trappers were told there was no danger that caribou meat, their staple diet, was contaminated and fish pulled from the icy lakes was also safe because any radioactive material that fell into local waters would be diluted to harmless levels.

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In a statement at

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Mondays. Advertising and subscription rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising dept.

Board of Directors:
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Guarded optimism expressed by faculty and students on future of Yarmouk University

In the third and final part of our series on Yarmouk University, Jordan Times reporter Lee S. Tesdell, talks to students and faculty about the new institution.

The pre-fab building which houses the library was busy with studying students when I visited. The book shelves although full, were very few, not becoming of a university perhaps. But the permanent library promises to be a great improvement. The small grassy area in the courtyard of the site was full of students including Raja from Hebron. She heard about the university from the radio. She came to study public administration although she would prefer to study political science outside Jordan as there is no political science course offered at Yarmouk. In the future she hopes to have a business of her own and to study further as well.

Anwar from Jenin, lives with his family in Irbid. They all left Jenin in 1948. "I am planning to go to university in Iraq, Egypt or United States to get a M.A. and Ph.D. and then to be a professor of math." He is on a Ministry of Education scholarship which pays him J.D. 20 a month.

Abdul-Aziz also from Jenin, came to Irbid in 1976 leaving his family behind. He is an English major who would like to study in America later. First though, he would like to "work for 3-4 years to save money and then to continue studying".

Maher Ali from Jenin lives in Hosn, a village close to Irbid and is studying chemistry. He hopes to receive his degree in 1980.

To save money, he lives with another student who is from Hebron. Both Murad and Majid are from Dura, a village near Hebron. Murad is an English major on scholarship from the Ministry of Education.

"I must teach for eight years to pay for my four years of education", he said.

He said that there were about 110 students at Yarmouk University with English majors.

Majid, who has a scholarship from the Army must teach

for 16 years to repay his debt. "Our family consists of 12," he said, "I am obliged to do this."

His family came to Anjar, south of Irbid, from Dura, because his father was assigned to the East Bank in the army in 1961.

The students talking with the Jordan Times had several observations to make about their university. One topic we discussed was co-education.

They said that there are several reasons that the men and women at Yarmouk mix less than at the University of Jordan. Some of them said that a high percentage of the women come from villages where traditions remain strong. Some said that because students at Yarmouk tend to be from poorer families than those at Jordan's other university, they are less westernised, and therefore more traditional.

Co-education is foreign idea

Others said that the university is new, therefore co-education is still a foreign idea to many students who come from segregated high schools.

The students had suggestions for improvements at the temporary site. Firstly, they mentioned that the library needed to be expanded as few of them can study at home and there is now very little room in the library to study. The meals in the cafeteria, they said, are too expensive and textbooks have been late in arriving and are often expensive.

One student claimed that a book which cost JD 6.750 at Yarmouk University cost JD 4 in Jerusalem. Finally, they agreed that something should be done about transportation, as some of them come very long distances every day to classes.

One student said that he paid 140 fils daily for services taxi to the university.

One student mentioned that there was no theatre at the university and that was a pity, as he had no place to sing.

Mr. Majed Ghannan, Director of Cultural and Public Relations, and whose office is at the temporary site, spoke to the Jordan Times about conditions at the school.

He told us why some Jordanians who left Jordan had decided to come to the Yarmouk faculty when offered a chance.

Firstly, "for Jordan it's a good salary", secondly, housing is the first thing they ask us about, he said, "so we started this housing scheme and every professor is furnished with a good house".

Financially Mr. Ghannan said "in 15 years, I hope, if our projects go well, we will be self-sufficient".

He mentioned the construction complex as one of the hopes for self-sufficiency.

Arab Bank offer

"The Arab Bank has offered to help with part of the Faculty of Engineering", but he said that fund raising will not really begin until projects are well-defined, meaning after the master plan has been completed.

Mr. Ghannan also told the Jordan Times about the recent tree planting activities of the university. On last Jan. 15 for instance, as a part of the Green Jubilee and in cooperation with the Irbid Governorate, the tree planting of "Green Jubilee Forest" and the ring of trees around the permanent site was continued.

Some of the people planted more than 100 trees on that day and "one of the students planted about 200 trees."

The area in the future will have about 20-30,000 trees in it and is assigned especially as a park.

Unfortunately last year, because the fence enclosing the permanent site had not been completed, some 80,000 of 100,000 trees were destroyed by livestock, Mr. Ghannan said. So this year, now that the fence has been completed, the trees will be replanted.

There will about ten rows around the campus, or about 200 kms. of trees all together, said Mr. Ghannan who is a native of Hosn, a village just south of Irbid. He formerly

held the position of Director of the Research Department in the Ministry of Information, and before that, taught in Teacher Training Centres in Jordan and Libya.

Dawn Smith, an American on the faculty of the Education Department, said, "I am really impressed by the students".

"They are intelligent, but I think they've learned more English than educational psychology".

Asked about the future of the university, she said "I think they somehow or other will pull it off. They have a way of getting things done."

She commented also that the students, many of whom are teachers seemed to have a low sense of self-esteem.

"I think they should upgrade the teachers social status" she added, referring to Jordan.

Others on the faculty were not so enthusiastic about the future of the university as they wondered whether it had been properly planned from the beginning. One of them said, "they opened it about a year too early".

A visit to one of the faculty houses revealed another source of discontent among some of the faculty. Although the pre-fab houses were expensive, some costing about \$30,000, including furnishing, they apparently were not properly assembled.

A visit to one kitchen for instance showed a door which refused to close because the foundation under the unit had begun to settle after only two years.

The wallpaper was also peeling off although it was a very expensive grade. The kitchen floors in some of the units have also begun to shift and crack as a result of poor foundations.

The important question, which it seems remains to be answered, is whether or not a sound educational philosophy which has relevance to the needs of Jordan, can in only 10 or 15 years be translated into reality at Yarmouk University.

If the president, and people like him, have the final say, certainly it will happen but only time can tell.

King Hussein visits Haya Arts Centre



His Majesty King Hussein seen with children during a visit to the Haya Arts Centre in Shmeisani on Monday. Accompanied by his daughter Princess Haya, the King toured the centre looking into various children's activities and training. His Majesty heard a report from the centre director Mr. Nabeel Sawalha about the rate of its progress and project to be implemented this year, including the Haya centre garden which will consist of an open staircase, birds garden, playground, and a children's museum.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Editor
Jordan Times
Amman

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
Amman

Dear Sir,

On January 29th, 1978, Jordan Times carried a Reuter report from Beirut quoting the Palestine News Agency Wafa, which said that arms shipped from a West German port are due to arrive in Jounieh, Lebanon.

A shipment as mentioned by Wafa would be contrary to the laws and policies of the Federal Republic of Germany.

For more than a decade no weapons were exported from the Federal Republic of Germany to the Middle East and they will not be expected in future.

Yours faithfully,
Dr. Martin Hecker,
1st secretary

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ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'II, on Monday, said United States National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski anticipated, four days ago, that the Israeli government's Sunday decision to resume deliberations of the Joint Egyptian-Israeli Military Committee when he declared that he sees some flexibility on Israel's part on the question of settlements in Sinai. Given that Israel's Foreign Minister Mosha Dayan, two days ago, said that there was no problem over these settlements and that Israeli sources have said that the gap with Egypt has been narrowed as a result of efforts made by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton, it would seem that American pressures on Israel have had some effect which should appear once Israeli and Egyptian negotiators meet again.

AL DUSTOUR said the United States is required to do something almost miraculous to break the impasse now governing peace talks in the Middle East for Israeli and Egyptian positions are opposed and no compromise seems possible from either side for a solution to emerge. Washington is, thus, faced with the difficult choice of having to change the balance of things in the area without having any cards to offer which might do that.

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National News Roundup

Hijaz Railway Technical Committee meets

UYADH, Jan. 30 (JNA) — The Hijaz Railway Technical Committee consisting of Jordanian, Syrian and Saudi representatives began its meeting here today. During its session the committee will debate the technical possibilities required to re-operate the railway between Damascus and Medina via Amman. Jordan was represented at the meeting by Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Transport as leader of the delegation and Director General

17 Lebanese students to enter University of Jordan

AMMAN, Jan. 30 (Agents). — The University of Jordan has decided to admit 17 Students from South Lebanon to study at various faculties at the university. This decision came after the visit of Imam Moussa Sadr to the university on Jan. 9. The students are unable to continue studies in Lebanon because of the troubled situation in the south. While in Amman Imam Moussa also made contacts with the Yarmouk University -- Jordan's second higher institute, which agreed to admit an unspecified number of Lebanese students, the agency added.

Arab Civil Aviation Council ends meeting

AMMAN, Jan. 30 (JNA). — The Director General of Civil Aviation Sharif Ghazi Rakan and his accompanying delegation returned home from Cairo today, after they attended a meeting of the Arab Civil Aviation Council which began on Jan. 18. During the meeting, Sharif Ghazi said, the council took a number of important decisions concerning a unified Arab policy regarding air transport. The Council meeting was attended by representatives of 13 Arab states.

Agriculture minister returns home

AMMAN, Jan. 30 (JNA). — The Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a returned home from Sudan today, after presiding over the five-day meetings of the higher committee for the Arab Agricultural Development Organisation. Mr. Jum'a said upon arrival at Amman airport that the committee prepared plans for the implementation of 45 agricultural projects in a number of Arab countries. Three of these projects are to be implemented in Jordan. During his stay in Khartoum, Mr. Jum'a discussed with Sudanese officials means of strengthening Agricultural cooperation between Jordan and Sudan and invited the Sudanese Minister of Agriculture to visit Jordan.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

| | Symbol | Volume traded | Opening price | Highest selling price | Lowest selling price | Closing price | Last buying bid | Last selling bid |
|----|------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| | | Value in RS | | Value price | Value price | | | |
| 1. | Arab Petroleum Co. | 320 33000 | 115 11.500 | 11500 11.500 | 11500 11.500 | 11500 11.500 | — | — |
| 2. | Arabian Gulf Petroleum | 320 150000 | 121 15.200 | 15200 15.200 | 15200 15.200 | 15200 15.200 | — | — |
| 3. | Arabian Gulf Refining | 320 21000 | 1265 6.950 | 6950 6.950 | 6950 6.950 | 6950 6.950 | 7.000 | — |
| | | | 2000 100000 | 100000 10.000 | 100000 10.000 | 100000 10.000 | — | — |

Everyone but Brunei wants the British military out

The sultan of Brunei is looking to continued British military protection to safeguard his state's huge oil reserves from potentially envious neighbours. For this reason, despite a recent United Nations resolution, calling for free elections and an end to colonial ties in the tiny enclave on the north coast of Borneo, Sultan Sir Hassanal Bolkiah seems determined to maintain links with Britain.

offer and the state can afford to pay for what it considers best," said a British official.

Britain has made it clear that it will never again allow its troops to be involved in internal strife here. But London is bound by a 1971 agreement to come to the sultanate's aid should it be threatened externally.

Britain has left behind a battalion of Gurkhas -- whose costs are borne by the sultanate -- as a token, presumably to guard the Shell oil fields near which they are garrisoned.

No one pretends that the Gurkhas are anything more than a deterrent, but London has told the sultan that they must be pulled out to avoid any further embarrassment for Britain.

ABC plans continuation of Alex Haley's Roots

NEW YORK (A.P.) — Planning is under way for a 12-hour continuation of Alex Haley's Roots that will pick up the story of Mr. Haley's forebears where ABC (American Broadcasting Company) television's first serialised drama left off.

Filming for Roots: The Second Hundred Years is scheduled to begin April 16. The production will be aired on ABC television in 1979, according to David Wolper, Executive Director of the Roots project.

The new serialisation will be based on scenes from Mr. Haley's Roots and material from his new book *Search*, which describes the later part of the Roots series.

Husbands, do your wives beat you?

WASHINGTON (Agencies).

University of Delaware, reported that husband-beating may be as large a social problem as the more publicised act of wife-beating. "We're certainly not saying that everyone does this kind of thing but that there are women who are capable of doing vicious, brutal things," Mr. Langley said. Victims of beatings by wives include small men married to big women, older men married to younger, physically stronger wives and handicapped or sick men married to healthy women.

AMERICAN MARKETPLACE

New Saudi regulation limits commission to local agents from foreign contractors

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Jan. 30 (AP). — Saudi Arabia has enacted new regulations that limit commissions collected by local agents from foreign contractors, the Middle East Economic Survey reported today. It appears the kingdom is out to curb over-charging and price-fixing by foreign contractors on government tenders. Some contractors reportedly had complained to the Saudi government about high commissions demanded by local agents, a factor responsible for high cost estimates these contractors often submit.

At one stage last year, the Saudi government threatened to blacklist foreign contractors that overcharge. The Saudi Ministry of Industry and Electricity at the time switched to other contractors, mainly from India, Pakistan, Taiwan and South Korea, for contracts to

taking about \$2.6 billion.

The new regulations placed a maximum ceiling on agents' fees equivalent to five per cent of contract, the survey said.

The government prohibited any representation in arms deals, often a source of astronomical commissions, or in direct

government-to-government deals.

The regulations categorically stipulated that the aim of representation shall not be "influence peddling," the survey said.

An agent, according to the new guidelines, may not act in separate capacities for a consultant and a contractor engaged in a single project. The agent, it continued, may represent up to 10 different foreign contractors.

According to the regulations, a foreign contractor may appoint more than one agent if his operations are of a diversified nature. Violations of the regulations by a foreign contractor will disqualify him from operating in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi agent involved also would be disqualified and lose his license.

Israel's Ehrlich to make official visit to South Africa

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (AP). — Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich will make an official visit to South Africa Feb. 6 to sign several economic agreements with the Pretoria government, the Foreign Ministry said today.

A ministry official said one agreement would prevent double taxation for citizens of one country living in the other and for dual nationals.

A second agreement concerns commercial exchanges to try to balance trade figures increasingly lopsided in South Africa's favour.

Confidential sources said last month a secret three-year-old agreement also will be renewed making Israel the only exception to South African regulations barring South Africans from investing in foreign countries.

Israel has been condemned by the U.N. General Assembly for its close ties with the apartheid regime, but the Israelis reject the U.N. position as hypocritical.

Israel's trade with South Africa in 1976 totalled \$72 million, the official said while South Africa's trade with other African nations reaches \$1 billion annually.

The official said Mr. Ehrlich's trip was planned for last year but was postponed by the South African elections. Mr. Ehrlich will attend the first meeting of ministers under a joint economic committee that was formed in 1976.

Mr. Ehrlich also will be the guest of the Jewish community in Johannesburg and Cape Town, the official said, and it was not known how long he will be in South Africa.

Events, Al Hawadess publisher sells 52% of ownership

BEIRUT, Jan. 30 (R). — The publisher of the Arabic Lebanese weekly magazine Al Hawadess and its sister English language Events has sold 52 per cent of their ownership under a deal concluded last week. Events is published in London.

A source close to the purchasers said the publisher, Mr. Selim Al Lawzi, would have 48 per cent of the shares of the magazine in a shareholding company.

Mr. Raja Sidawi, a Syrian businessman, will have 48 per cent of the shares and Mr. Youssef Ishib, a Syrian university professor four per cent.

The sum involved in the deal was not disclosed, but negotiations preceding it were said to involve some eight million Lebanese pounds (about \$2,675,585).

1977 was a poor year for the Soviet economy, the outlook isn't brighter

The winter session of the Supreme Soviet heard little of cheer for the Soviet economy. The growth of national income last year was the lowest on record since the war. Further outlook: Not much brighter.

By David Lascles of the Financial Times, London

MOSCOW (F.T.) — The new year has had far from auspicious beginnings for the Soviet Union. President Leonid Brezhnev, who was 71 in December, was too ill to attend the winter session of the Supreme Soviet, the annual get together of the Soviet parliament which takes stock of the country's political and economic health, and announces plans for the next year.

And at that meeting the country's chief planner Mr. Nikolai Balakov revealed that 1977 had been the worst year for the economy of the Soviet Union since the war, and, as a result, growth in 1978 would be less than expected.

President Brezhnev's absence, which went completely unremarked by the Soviet press even though his empty seat was there for millions of T.V. viewers to see, was explained by the Russians as being caused by flu, and there is nothing to suggest that he is more seriously ill than that. But it was a reminder that the Soviet leader does not enjoy the best of health, and that he has no obvious successor.

This was highlighted by the reshuffle of the Politburo, the Communist Party's leading body, earlier in the autumn after the dismissal of Nikolai Pod-

gorny, the former Soviet president who was forced to yield his post to Mr. Brezhnev. His replacement was Vasily Kuznetsov, a Deputy Foreign Minister who, at 76, did not give the impression of an injection of new blood into the leadership.

The fact that Mr. Brezhnev did not use the opportunity of this appointment to bring on a member of the next generation was taken by observers as a sign that he is deliberately avoiding grooming successors for fear of the political threat they could pose.

Meanwhile, he has been careful not to allow his illness to affect his public activity. Messages have been sent from his sickbed and reproduced in the Soviet press -- extending good wishes to public organisations on their nation day, including the KGB.

But though uncertainty over Mr. Brezhnev has cast a shadow over Soviet affairs, the country's economic problems have also begun to loom large.

That the situation is serious is clear from the way Mr. Balakov presented his economic report to the Supreme Soviet. Instead of giving outright figures for 1977, he lumped them together with those for 1976 -- a very much better year -- and spoke proudly of the achievements over two years.

But since the 1976 results

are known, the 1977 results can be deducted from Mr. Balakov's two year totals. This shows that the key economic indicator in the Soviet economy, the growth of the national income, was only 3.2 per cent in 1977, a record low since the war. Industry also grew less than originally planned, and there were shortfalls in other economic indicators such as the growth of profits and of labour productivity.

A large part of the problem is agriculture, the traditional weakness of the Soviet economy. The harvest in 1977 was 185m. tons, nearly 20m. tons less than planned, and bad weather caused shortfalls in the production of many other crop and livestock items. Because of the tightly-knit nature of the Soviet economy, a bad farming year tends to affect the other sectors after a lag of up to 12 months.

But Mr. Balakov indicated that there were other culprits

too. The building industry failed to meet its construction plan, causing important sectors of industry to fall behind schedule. These include the steel and chemical industries which supply materials and components to other parts of the economy.

Mr. Balakov also blamed the labour force for not working hard enough. None of the targets for raising output was met, and at the same time workers wasted millions of tons of metals and fuel through inefficiency, he said.

Mr. Balakov warned: "Such deficiencies must not be allowed to affect the rate of economic development in 1978, or the tasks set for the national economy and industry."

However, the combination of all these shortfalls has forced Kremlin planners to revise downwards their earlier forecasts for growth in 1978. Although this applies primarily to the national income and in-

dustry, it will also affect ordinary Russians because of cuts in wage targets and sales targets of goods in the shops.

There have also been cuts in the targets for fuel and power production, but these may not be as serious since the Kremlin has launched a campaign to cut energy consumption and force industry to produce more goods with less fuel.

Observers still believe that there is a possibility the Soviet economy will pick up again once the new investments are completed, and there is a big drive to complete unfinished projects in 1978. A good harvest would also help.

But at present rates of growth, planners will be hard pushed to fill the Five Year Plan which ends in 1980. There will have to be two harvests of at least 230m. tons in the next three years to meet the grain target, and the record so far is 222m. tons. Economic growth is also behind schedule, and slowing down instead of speeding up as planned.

It is perhaps significant that at this difficult moment, the Soviet press has been carrying an unusual crop of articles criticising some aspects of the economic system and praising the role played by private plots in agriculture. The criticisms come mainly from academics rather than the politicians and seem unlikely to produce big changes. But the fact that they were published at all points to concern in high places.

-- Financial Times News-Features

Soviet economic targets for 1978

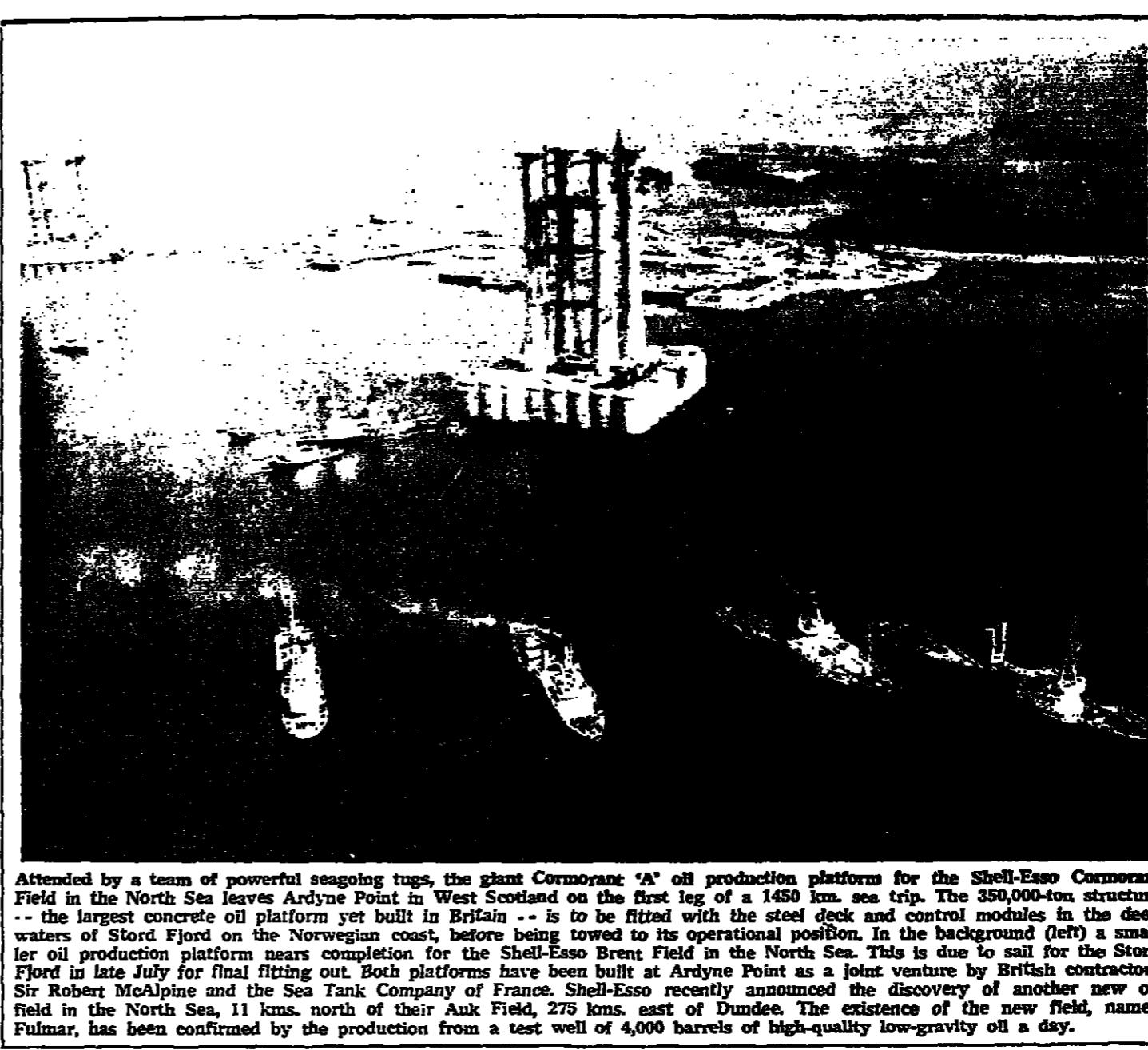
| | Original | Revised |
|---------------------|----------|---------|
| Per cent growth of: | | |
| National income | 4.5 | 4 |
| Industry | 6 | 4.5 |
| Agriculture | n.a. | 16.2 |
| Wages | 4.1 | 3 |
| Retail sales | 6.1 | 3.9 |
| Production targets: | | |
| Steel m. tons | n.a. | 152.6 |
| Oil m. tons | n.a. | 575 |
| Gas bu. cu. metres | 370 | 370 |
| Electricity bu. KWh | 1225 | 1207 |
| Coal m. tons | 750 | 746 |

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LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

| | Jordanian fils Buying/selling |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| U.S. dollar | 313.00/315.00 |
| U.K. sterling | 612.00/616.00 |
| W. German mark | 148.60/149.50 |
| Swiss franc | 158.10/159.00 |
| French franc | 66.40/66.80 |
| Italian lire (for every 100) | 36.20/36.40 |
| Japanese yen (for every 100) | 130.00/130.80 |
| Dutch guilder | 138.30/139.10 |
| Belgian franc (for every ten) | 95.80/96.40 |
| Swedish crown | 67.50/67.90 |

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Controversial deal could blow Holland out of Urenco

THE HAGUE, Jan. 30 (R). — A political row which could force Holland to opt out of a valuable nuclear partnership with Britain and West Germany because of a controversial deal with Brazil comes to parliament this week.

The two ministers responsible for the project, both from the right-wing Liberal Party, warned that West Germany and Britain's patience was exhausted after repeated delays caused by Dutch hesitance.

At the centre of the storm is the so-called Urenco consortium set up by the three countries in 1971 to develop advanced ultra-centrifuge enrichment technology.

The partnership wants to expand its capacity to cope with a contract to supply Brazil with 2,000 tons of enriched uranium in the 1980's for a big energy programme.

In an earlier debate on the issue, the Dutch Christian Democrats, main pillar of the government's shaky support in parliament, demanded tighter guarantees from Brazil to prevent it from using the nuclear fuel to make its own atomic bomb.

Leftwing opposition parties called for Holland to back out of the Urenco consortium.

The centre-right Dutch cabinet spent the weekend in urgent back-stage contacts in an attempt to rally support for the project before the debate in the Second Chamber (lower house) opens on Tuesday.

Brazil and the three partners will try to negotiate the establishment of the worldwide plutonium storage system run by the IAEA. If this proves impossible, they will negotiate then an "ad hoc" storage scheme, again bringing in the IAEA.

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German dockers strike ends

HAMBURG, West Germany, Jan. 30 (A.P.) — Work resumed at eight West German harbours today after union representatives accepted a new wage contract, ending a four-day strike by 16,000 dockworkers.

The strike had virtually halted cargo-handling operations at the major ports of Hamburg, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, Emden, Brake, Norddeich and Luebeck.

An 11-month contract signed on Saturday between union and employer representatives includes a total seven per cent wage hike and creates new pay categories for high skilled workers, against previous union demands for nine per cent increase and pre-strike last offer of 5.7 per cent by employers.

The Hamburg Harbour Employers' Association said today the strike caused heavy losses despite its short duration. Hamburg harbour also now has to cope with a backlog of about a million tons, a spokesman said.

The freight pile-up worsened today as dozens of ships docked after previously queuing outside the eight harbours selected, waiting for the strike end.

Nigeria expects 20-40% drop in oil revenue

LONDON, Jan. 30 (R). — Nigeria expects a 20 to 40 per cent drop in oil revenue, its major money earner, said Federal Finance Commissioner James Oluleye on Lagos Radio mouthed here today.

Mr. Oluleye blamed recent developments in the oil industry, especially production in new areas which had affected demand.

But Gen. Oluleye denied the economy had now declined to a critical level and Nigeria's recurrent expenditure exceeded recurrent revenue by 40 per cent.

100 not 40 died in Tunisian riots, says opposition leader

TUNIS, Jan. 30 (R). — A Tunisian opposition leader said yesterday at least 100 people died in anti-government riots last week and authorities disclosed they had arrested the country's trade union chief. The death toll given by former Interior Minister Ahmad Mestiri at a press conference compared with the official estimate of 42 people killed. The violence erupted on Thursday during a 24-hour general strike organised by the General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT) in a challenge to the government of President Habib Bourguiba.

The official Tunisian news agency said UGTT leader Habib Achour was taken into custody on Saturday night as security forces rounded up union militants.

Eight of the 13-strong UGTT executives have also been arrested along with hundreds of other union members.

Mr. Achour and the UGTT have been openly accused by authorities of being responsible for the rioting in what has been called "Black Thursday".

Tunis newspapers charged yesterday that the union was involved in a plot to overthrow 7-year-old Mr. Bourguiba's government.

The violence affected the capital and other towns as the strikers protested against recent attacks on union offices and arrests of its members.

In the security clampdown since, the government news agency said, large stocks of guns, molotov cocktails and other weapons had been uncovered at a regional UGTT office at Sfax, Tunisia's second largest port.

Top provincial party

man sacked in China

PEKING, Jan. 30 (R). — The top Communist Party figure in China's strategic western Sinkiang region has been removed from his post, according to a provincial radio report.

It is the most important political removal since the downfall of the so-called "Gang of Four" in October 1976.

The report, monitored yesterday on Sinkiang's Urumchi

Tunis is still under a night curfew and a heavy military guard.

The future of the 650,000-strong UGTT is likely to be discussed at a special congress. Apart from those executives members under arrest, two others have resigned since the violence.

Mr. Mestiri told reporters the death toll could rise still further because a large number of people had been hurt in the rioting during which tanks were used to quell the violence.

He called for a national commission of inquiry to be set up "to determine everybody's responsibilities."

The announcement from ICF-TU headquarters said that Mr. Vanderveken hoped to negotiate with the authorities to obtain the release of arrested trade unionists.

In Baghdad, the Iraq News Agency said the Iraq Trade Union Federation had cabled President Bourguiba and Arab and Tunisian trade unions calling for the release of detained workers.

The cables called for freedom of trade union activities and denounced "repressive measures taken by Tunisian police authorities against the working class."

said. The embassy spokesman said a door was damaged and window panes shattered in the embassy.

Witnesses said later that the explosion was caused by a charge planted near the entrance of the building where the embassy is housed. The explosion caused material damage to the embassy and other parts of the building.

In Brussels it was announced yesterday the Deputy Secretary General of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), Mr. Jean Vanderveken, is to visit Tunis today.

The announcement from ICF-TU headquarters said that Mr. Vanderveken hoped to negotiate with the authorities to obtain the release of arrested trade unionists.

In Beirut, a bomb exploded last night near the Tunisian Embassy causing slight damage to the building but no casualties, an embassy spokesman



Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares (right) is pictured in Lisbon at the weekend after announcing the country's new 16-member coalition government. With him is the new Foreign Minister Victor da Machado, one of the three conservative ministers from the Social Democratic Party which joined Dr. Soares' Socialist Party in the new coalition. (AP wirephoto)

Zaire denies reports of new Shaba uprising

BRUSSELS, Jan. 30 (AP). — The Embassy of Zaire today issued a formal denial following reports of a new uprising in the southeastern copper mining Province of Shaba.

The province, formerly known as Katanga, was invaded last year by followers of the late secessionist leader Moise Tshombe. The invaders were driven back after two months with the help of a Moroccan expeditionary force and French

military advisors.

Moise Tshombe's son, Jean, told the Belgian news agency Belga yesterday that a new uprising was taking place in the province.

"All neutral observers have recognised that calm prevails in Shaba," an official Zaire Embassy communiqué said. It added that the trip currently being made in Europe by President Mobutu Sese Seko proved that all is well in the country.

Top provincial party

man sacked in China

Radio, said a Mr. Saifudin, who had headed the party committee and was also political commissar of the People's Liberation Army in the region, had been replaced by his number two, Mr. Wang Feng.

Mr. Saifudin, 61, had studied in Moscow and belonged to both the Soviet and the Chinese Communist Parties. His wife was of Russian origin.

in Chicago, was open but running behind schedule.

In Kentucky, 208 National Guardsmen who had helped with rescue operations were de-activated. The biggest problem was on the Ohio River, where 100 wayward coal and grain barges had broken free from moorings -- some had slammed into dams.

Ohio was declared a federal emergency area. Crews from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the army reserve and the Ohio National Guard -- more than 3,800 men in all -- were working today to clear roads and highways of drift as high as five metres.

In Europe ...

Severe storms swept through parts of Europe over the weekend, bringing blizzards to Scotland, gales and snow to the Italian Riviera and floodwaters into Venice.

At least three people died in snowslides in Italy, two men drowned in Britain and 27 sailors are missing and believed drowned after their ship was driven onto rocks of the Spanish coast.

A blizzard howled across Scotland Saturday and Sunday, closing roads and stopping trains dead on the tracks in what local authorities called the worst snow storm in living memory. Hundreds of motorists and train passengers were stranded in blizzards.

The usually tranquil, palm-dotted Italian Riviera and much of northwest Italy was lashed by gale-force winds, rain and snow.

Snowslides killed at least three people in northern Italy and rain and strong winds combined to flood the lagoon city of Venice for the first time this year.

A Spanish fishing trawler, the 1,317-ton Maribel ran aground off Vigo, Spain, Saturday when it was caught by 60-mph winds. Maritime officials reported that 27 of its 36-man crew were feared lost. A schooner in the area rescued the other nine men.

The death toll in Scotland's worst blizzard in 30 years reached five today, when searchers found three bodies in cars buried by snow.

Other people were missing

U.S., U.K. sponsor other Rhodesia talks in Malta

VALLETTA, Malta, Jan. 30 (R). — Western negotiators apparently failed to make much headway in their first round of talks with Rhodesian nationalist guerrilla leaders today on a peace plan for the breakaway African territory.

The militant black leaders Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo would not give any details of their opening two-hour meeting with British Foreign Secretary David Owen and American envoy Andrew Young.

But Mr. Young, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, said that while the serious atmosphere was encouraging, major differences still remained.

He did not elaborate on Western efforts to persuade the Patriotic Front leaders to accept the five-month-old Anglo-American plan to end the guerrilla war against the white-government in Salisbury and bring black majority rule.

Mr. Mugabe said the atmosphere at the talks, on the top floor of a five-storey hotel outside Malta's capital Valletta, had been very cordial.

"We have made a beginning and we are going to go ahead talking and clearing the way," he told reporters.

Dr. Owen said the talks would resume formally later this evening.

The Patriotic Front and the Western negotiators are divided on several key issues including control of the military during transfer to black rule in Rhodesia.

Diplomats closely involved in the Rhodesian question privately express deep scepticism about the prospects of the talks on this small Mediterranean island succeeding.

The talks will be running an uneasy tandem with Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith's negotiations in Salisbury with moderate black leaders.

Radio Phnom Penh today claimed its troops had "eliminated" all Vietnam's aggressive troops from Cambodian territory.

The claim appeared to signify Vietnamese withdrawal, or at least a partial pull-back, from positions captured nearly a month ago in Cambodian border territory.

But there was no independent confirmation of this, and no reports on the situation in northern Cambodian provinces.

to resume today without Bishop Muzorewa.

The Anglo-American blueprint calls for Mr. Smith's surrender to an all-powerful British Resident Commissioner, designated as Field Marshal Lord Carver, who would prepare the territory for one-man, one-vote elections and who would be supported by a United Nations force.

The Salisbury talks were reported to be close to broad agreement on a multi-racial interim government until one of the black leaders, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, walked out on Friday. The talks were scheduled

Cambodia improves ties with Thailand; reports victories over Vietnam

BANGKOK, Jan. 30 (R). — Communist Cambodia today prepared for fence-mending talks with its non-communist Western neighbour, Thailand, and reported military successes against Vietnam, its eastern communist neighbour.

Thai Foreign Minister Upadit Pacharyuklang flew to Phnom Penh for talks, expected to start tomorrow, aimed at improving relations soured by mutual mistrust and repeated border clashes.

He told reporters here his top priority was finding ways of stopping border skirmishes and that unless progress was made on this subject, other agreements could not follow.

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The Thai mission was aimed purely at improving long-stagnated bilateral relations, the said. Bangkok leaders have already decided their complete impartiality in the Vietnam-Cambodia war.

Observers here saw no liaison between the Thai minister and Phnom Penh's latest claims in the border war with Vietnam.

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King Hassan returns home after Madrid talks on W. Sahara

RABAT, Jan. 30 (R). — King Hassan II of Morocco returned to Rabat today after spending the weekend in Spain where he conferred with King Juan Carlos. The two rulers are believed to have reviewed Spanish-Moroccan relations and the situation two years after Spain agreed to cede the Western Sahara to Morocco and Mauritania. The king is due to confer here Thursday with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat who is scheduled to stop over in Rabat on his way to Washington.

Snow moves Europeward as U.S. digs itself out

COLUMBUS, Jan. 30 (AP). — Scattered cars and trucks litter snowy highways. Runaway barges clog rivers, hitting dams and endangering other water traffic. Many U.S. towns remain cut off from the outside world behind enormous snowbanks.

Still, Ohio is digging out of the blizzard that paralysed the state for four days and killed at least 28 people.

"Things are getting better every day," Mr. Dennis Kwartowski, head of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration's Snow Removal Project in Ohio, said yesterday.

Ohio expected some fresh snow today, but officials expressed hope that it would not create new cleanup problems.

In Michigan, where 19 died and 15,000 travellers were stranded, many roads are still under four-metre drifts. Near Lansing, some sheriff's deputies made their rounds on snowshoes. The roofs on at least five buildings have collapsed.

Illinois offices, schools and roads were opened today. The nation's busiest airport, O'Hare

in Chicago, was open but running behind schedule.

In Kentucky, 208 National Guardsmen who had helped with rescue operations were de-activated. The biggest problem was on the Ohio River, where 100 wayward coal and grain barges had broken free from moorings -- some had slammed into dams.

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The death toll in Scotland's worst blizzard in 30 years reached five today, when searchers found three bodies in cars buried by snow.

Other people were missing

and scores were stranded in the blizzards, which brought chaos to the Scottish highlands and islands.

Police and volunteers found the three bodies after investigating reports of faint voices being heard yesterday on the road between Wick and Helmsdale.

The rescue team had to dig into a 15-metre mountain of snow before finding the cars, one with two victims, the other with one.

A police spokesman at Inverness said: "We found a husband and wife in one car, and a man on his own in the other. None of them was far from home."

Fears were expressed today for the safety of many other people believed to have spent their second night stranded in cars in deep drifts.

The other known dead were a woman killed by a skidding truck and a man found dead in a snowdrift after having abandoned his snowbound car.

Seventy passengers marooned for 24 hours in a snowbound train were airlifted to safety last night.

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King Hassan returns home after Madrid talks on W. Sahara

Ugandan coffee is sold through the state-controlled Uganda Marketing Board.

According to high-level U.S. officials, U.S.-Ugandan relations have been under review. When asked if the administration might change its position if pressure gathers momentum in

pressure against Amin is also mounting on other fronts. At the United Nations five Scandinavian countries have introduced a resolution that the U.N. General Assembly express its concern over human rights violation in Uganda.

Moreover, an Amsterdam-based group, the World Association of World Federalists has hired an American attorney, Luis Kutner to file a lawsuit against Amin. Kutner is a prominent figure in human rights legislation. He will test a new statute that eliminates sovereigns from the immunity of prosecution when he files a civil suit in the U.S. District Court on behalf of Ugandan exiles. Kutner will also petition the United Nations to establish a tribunal to prosecute Amin for his alleged crimes.

Some State Department officials feel that Amin may use Western pressure to his advantage by portraying himself as a Third World target of hypocritical "Western imperialism".

In his initial response to the boycott legislation in Washington, Amin said that it would violate the human rights of poor Ugandan farmers. But most

Idi Amin of Uganda (right) points out something of interest to his Vice President Mustafa Adrisi at celebrations in the Ugandan town of Koboko last week of the seventh anniversary of President Amin's rise to power. (AP wirephoto)

Missouri hotel's fire kills 14

KANSAS CITY, Missouri, Jan. 30 (AP). — Firemen resuming sifting through the ruins of Kansas City's historic Coates Hotel early today, searching for more victims in what is feared to be the most deadly fire in the city's history. Fourteen persons were known to have perished in the fire, which swept through the ornate, century-old hotel early Saturday, and officials say the toll could rise as high as 30. "We know there are more bodies in there," said Mr. William Kelley, battalion fire chief.

"How or when we're going to get them out is anybody's guess. Several of the victims died in desperate leaps from windows of the six-story frame and stone building, which had become a \$100,000 home for transients and the elderly in recent years. The cause of the fire was still officially unknown.

Canadian prisoners hold 12 hostages

NEW WESTMINSTER, Canada, Jan. 30 (AP). — Five prisoners claiming to be armed with a pistol and grenades took 13 hostages -- including 10 women visitors -- at the British Columbia Penitentiary and began negotiating into the night on Saturday night. The inmates released a woman who reportedly is pregnant, but there was no word on any break in the siege until today. The New Westminster incident began as an escape attempt, said Inspector Les Holmes of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.</